

Scioto Valley Local School District

1414 Piketon Road
P.O. Box 600
Piketon, Ohio 45661

Todd A. Burkitt, Superintendent
Telephone: (740) 289-4456

Megan Williams, Chief Financial Officer
Telephone: (740) 289-4089

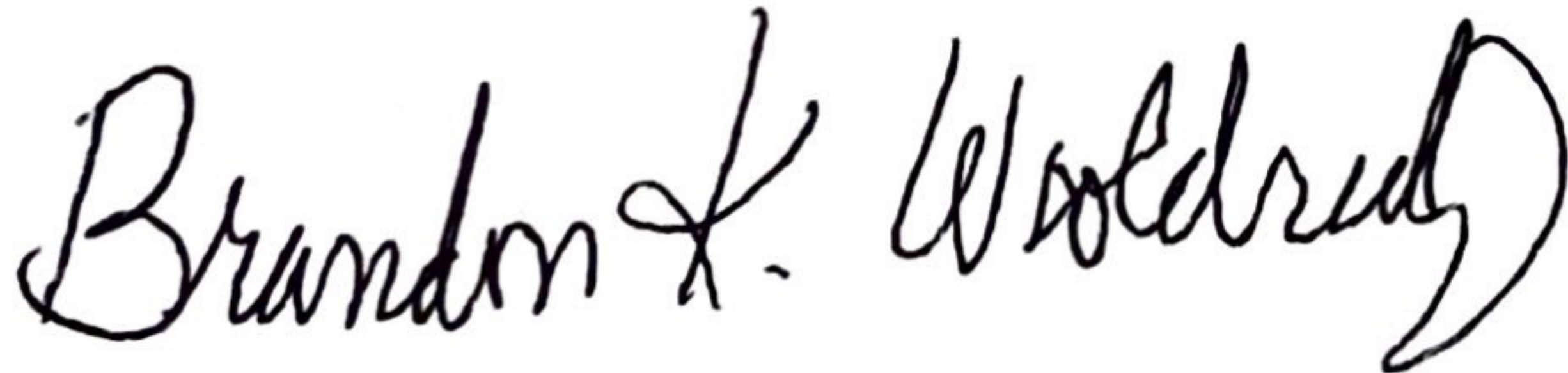
May 13, 2019

An open letter to the students, parents, and staff of the Scioto Valley Local School District, and members of the community:

The top priority of the Scioto Valley Local School District Board of Education is to ensure the safety and health of our students and staff. The Scioto Valley Local School District was notified that enriched uranium was detected inside the Zahns Corner Middle School building and that Neptunium 237 was detected in a US Department of Energy air monitor located adjacent to the Zahns Corner Middle School. As a result of this information, the SVLSD Board of Education has made the decision to close the Zahns Corner Middle School until the source, extent, level of contamination, and potential impacts to public health and the environment can be determined.

It is the position of the Board that any level of contamination on or near our school is unacceptable. Enriched uranium and Neptunium are currently identified as contaminants of concern by the US Department of Energy on the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant property. We agree with the Pike County Health Department that the US Department of Energy must take appropriate actions to ensure radiological contaminants are not being released from the site. The Scioto Valley Local School District is working closely with the Pike County Health Department to develop a path forward that will ensure our students, staff and community are safe. We believe that closing Zahns Corner Middle School for the remainder of this school year is in the best interest of our students and staff at this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brandon K. Wooldridge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brandon Wooldridge
President, Scioto Valley Local Board of Education